



## FACTS AND FIGURES

Circulation	3,273,587
In Library Use	2,819,769
Total Materials Use	6,093,356
Population Served	731,700
Registered Patrons	405,000
Patron Count	2,861,774
Reference Questions	728,813
Directional Questions	1,869,655
Per Capita Materials Use	8.22
Collections	
Books	1,937,954
Films and Video	5,057
Documents	1,871,300
Microfilms	2,005,711
Program Attendance	149,995
Number of Employees FTE	351

## 1988-1989 BUDGET

Expenditures	
City and County	18, 200,649
Grants	511,673
Reserves	
City and County	18, 200,649
Grants	511,673

## A MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY COMMISSION

San Francisco has an extraordinary opportunity. In the next six years it can literally create a great new cultural institution, a Library System preserving the best of the past and boldly reaching out into the future.

The passage of the Library Bond issue in November 1988 made it possible. An unusual partnership of civic leaders and private philanthropists is working hard to make it a reality.

A public library is the most democratic of institutions - a people's college, a student's research center, a child's door to learning, a business information center, a popular materials center, a community meeting place, a knowledge network, an advocate for intellectual freedom. It must be a vibrant institution as well as an oasis.

The Library Commission and staff are working to lay the groundwork. We are seeking to focus our resources where we can make a difference and provide the kinds of services the City will need in the 21st Century. We want to stimulate public dialogue, craft a community vision for a new library system, and develop the coalition necessary to build it. The Annual Report is part of our outreach, to define where we are now and give a sense of direction. We welcome your insights and participation.

Steven A. Coulter

## LIBRARIES AND LOCATIONS

### MAIN

Civic Center  
Larkin and McAllister 94102  
558-3191

### BRANCHES

Anna E. Waden  
5075 3rd Street 94124  
468-1323

North Beach  
2000 Mason Street 94133  
391-9473

Anza  
550 37th Avenue 94121  
752-1960

Ocean View  
111 Broad Street 94112  
586-4193

Bernal  
500 Cortland Avenue 94110  
285-1744

Ortega  
3223 Ortega Street 94122  
681-1848

Chinatown  
1135 Powell Street 94108  
989-6770

Park  
1833 Page Street 94117  
752-4620

Eureka Valley -  
Harvey Milk Memorial  
3555 16th Street 94114  
626-1132

Parkside  
1200 Taraval Street 94116  
566-4647

Excelsior  
4400 Mission Street 94112  
586-4075

Portola  
2434 San Bruno Avenue 94134  
468-2232

Glen Park  
653 Chenery Street 94131  
586-4144

Potrero  
1616 20th Street 94107  
285-3022

Golden Gate Valley  
1801 Green Street 94123  
346-9273

Presidio  
3150 Sacramento Street 94115  
921-5003

Ingleside  
387 Ashton Avenue 94112  
586-4156

Richmond  
351 9th Avenue 94118  
752-1240

Library for the Blind  
3150 Sacramento Street 94115  
558-5035

Sunset  
1305 18th Avenue 94122  
566-4552

Marina  
1890 Chestnut Street 94123  
346-9336

Visitaion Valley  
45 Leland Avenue 94134  
239-5270

Merced  
155 Winston Drive 94132  
586-4246

West Portal  
190 Lenox Way 94127  
566-4584

Mission  
3359 24th Street 94110  
824-2810

Western Addition  
1550 Scott Street 94115  
346-9531

Noe Valley  
451 Jersey Street 94114  
285-2788

# LAYING NEW FOUNDATIONS SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY

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SAN FRANCISCO  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Annual Report, 1988-1989

## FROM THE CITY LIBRARIAN

This year was one of adjustment and retrenchment. The City's budget deficit required the Library to reduce personnel, resulting in a reduction of service hours. A tremendous amount of work was required to balance the reality of the budget with the desire to provide the best possible service to the residents of San Francisco. Although the reduced hours lessened the convenience of Library facilities, the use of Library services dropped only slightly.

In spite of the reduced budget the Library made significant progress in reshaping the institution into one that will lead the City, and perhaps librarianship, into the 21st Century. In November, after a tremendous effort by the Friends of the Library and other supporters, the citizens overwhelmingly approved a ballot measure for bonds of \$109.5 million to create a new first class Main Library and to renovate the neediest branches. The Friends of Libraries, U.S.A. recognized the San Francisco Friends' hard work by selecting them as the outstanding Friends group in the large library category. The selection of the architectural team of I.M. Pei & Partners with Simon, Martin-Vegue, Winkelstein & Moris of San Francisco was accomplished. A great deal of effort has gone into the STRATEGIC PLAN, which I developed as the vehicle for defining direction, focusing resources, and providing orientation for the five new Library Commissioners.

Operationally, Technical Services made major gains in getting materials on the shelf more quickly, in completing the task of connecting all Library facilities into the circulation system, in bringing stability to the circulation system, and in moving processing towards the goal of an eventual total online bibliographic control system. In public services, the S.F. Connection developed strong rapport with other City agencies and offices, the children's program had a huge party at the San Francisco Zoo to celebrate the most successful summer reading program ever, Project Read continued to grow even in the face of uncertain future funding, and our staff worked even harder to help people use the resources of the Library. The Book Buddies received the Golden Rule award for outstanding community service from the J.C. Penney Company. The Foundation for a New Main Library reached operational status with the hiring of Diana Coleman as Executive Director. In San Francisco we know that fifty-two percent of the citizens have used the Library in the past five years.

The Foundation has been laid for S.F.P.L. to excel. The support of the community, the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors, the Commission, and the staff will ensure that this Library will be a leading institution in the 1990s and ready for the year 2000.

Kenneth E. Dowlin



## A TIME OF TRANSITION

### PASSAGE OF BOND MEASURE

In November 1988, San Francisco voters overwhelmingly approved, by nearly 77%, the expenditure of \$109.5 million in bonds for a new Main Library and branch renovation. The present Main Library exceeded its capacity in 1947. For over twenty five years, the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library have actively campaigned to convince City officials of the need for a new library, and have raised the funds to pay for studies supporting the need. The Library, the Library Commission, the Friends, and the support of many active individuals in the community have made the dream a reality.

### HIRING OF ARCHITECT

Following a nationwide search, the selection of James Ingo Freed of I.M. Pei & Partners of New York, with local firm Simon, Martin-Vegue, Winkelstein & Moris was announced by Chief Administrative Officer Rudy Nothenberg. The new Main Library, as conceptualized by James Ingo Freed, will be a "state of the art institution varying in information retrieval possibilities from Gutenberg to the latest electronic and computer systems.

### DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGIC PLAN

Passage of the bond issue opened the opportunity to reassess and reevaluate the planning and operation of the Library. In defining the Mission, Goals, Roles, and Objectives of the Library, the Strategic Plan is a working document, to be revisited annually prior to preparation of the Library's budget.



Young patrons enjoy a quiet moment

## NEW PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICES

### COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARIES ADVISORY GROUP

In response to the threatened closure of four neighborhood branch libraries, branch users rallied to support the Library in keeping the facilities open. Successful in meeting this goal, the group now includes two representatives from each branch constituency who meet bimonthly with the Library Administration. The Council serves as an active, aware, and concerned citizen's group, eager to secure services and to defend the concept of the free public library.

### FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM

The Family Literacy Program empowers low-literate parents to share the joys of reading with their preschool aged children. Free tutoring for parents is provided by the Library's Project Read tutors. By attending special Family Storytimes at a library branch or agency site, parents and children participate in activities that will help their children develop basic reading-readiness skills. Each family receives free children's books to take home and share with their children. The program is funded by a California State Library grant.

### SAN FRANCISCO CONNECTION

Using the latest technology, the San Francisco Connection links City officials and employees to the information support and research assistance necessary for the planning and managing of departmental functions and services. The project creates and maintains computerized files of current and accurate information about City Hall government and officials, city services, and local government activities for public and government use. Funding for the program is provided by a federal Library Services and Construction Act grant, supplemented by a grant from Pacific Telephone for special equipment and software.

## KEY PEOPLE

### MAYOR ART AGNOS

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Angela Alioto	Willie B. Kennedy
Harry G. Britt, President	Bill Maher
Jim Gonzales	Nancy Walker
Terence Hallinan	Doris M. Ward
Richard Hongisto	Wendy Nelder
Tom Hsieh	

### LIBRARY COMMISSION

Steven A. Coulter	Dale A. Carlson
President	
Jean Kalil	Lonnie K. Chin
1st Vice President	
Edward F. Callanan, Jr	E. Dennis Normandy III
2nd Vice President	Roselyne C. Swig

### LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION

Kenneth E. Dowlin, City Librarian  
Karen Cox, Assistant City Librarian  
William Ramirez, Chief of Main Library  
E. Hope Hayes, Chief of Branches  
Nancy Musser, Chief of Technical Services  
Anne Kincaid, Coordinator of Adult Services  
Neel Parikh, Coordinator of Children's Services  
Richard P. Walsh, Secretary to the Commission  
John Maguire, Personnel Director

### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Jane Winslow, Executive Director  
David K. Coombs, President

### LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Diana Coleman, Executive Director  
James Edgar, Chair  
Marjorie Stern, President



